

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

59-W

CONFIDENTIAL

Action

Classification

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EUR

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Info

FROM: BERLIN

RMR

TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 648, FEBRUARY 3, 9 P.M.

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NIACT

SENT DEPARTMENT 648, PRIORITY BONN 578 REPEATED INFORMATION
LONDON 110, PARIS 142, MOSCOW 189.

BONN PASS POLAD USAREUR AS INFORMATION PRIORITY 191 FROM BERLIN.

PARIS FOR EMBASSY, USRO, CINCEUR THURSTON AND WEST.

REFERENCE OUR TELEGRAM 571 TO BONN, 642 TO DEPARTMENT.

BRITISH POLAD REPORTS FOLLOWING DETAILS YESTERDAY'S MARIENBORN
INCIDENT INVOLVING BRITISH TRUCK:

TRUCK PARTIALLY OPEN BUT WITH CANVAS CURTAIN COVERING BACK.
BRITISH DRIVER ALONE AND AFTER PRESENTING VEHICLE DOCUMENTS
SOVIET CHECKPOINT GUARD STATED HE WISHED TO INSPECT TRUCK "FOR
HIDDEN PERSONS." DRIVER PROTESTED VEHEMENTLY AND WHILE
ARGUING WITH GUARD SECOND SOVIET SOLDIER JUMPED ON TAILBOARD
OF TRUCK AND LIFTED THE COVERING CANVAS FLAP.

WHEN BRITISH DRIVER SHOUTED AT HIM, HE JUMPED DOWN. BRITISH
HELMSTEDT CHECKPOINT CO MADE IMMEDIATE PROTEST TO SOVIET MARIEN
BORN CHECKPOINT CO. SOVIET CO AT FIRST DENIED THAT SOVIET
SOLDIER HAD JUMPED ON BRITISH TRUCK, STATING THAT SOVIET SOL-
DIER HAD ONLY LIFTED CANVAS FLAP. HOWEVER, WHEN BRITISH DRIVER
WAS ABLE TO POINT TO BOOT MARKS ON REAR OF TRUCK, SOVIET CO
CHANGED HIS STORY AND SAID THAT HIS MEN WERE ACTING UNDER IN-
STRUCTIONS AND THAT NO TRUCKS WOULD BE CLEARED AT NOWAWES CHECK-
POINT WITHOUT SUBMITTING TO ACTUAL INSPECTION. SOVIET CO POINTED
TO US VEHICLES WHICH HE SAID HAD BEEN THERE FOR SOME HOURS BE-
CAUSE THEY REFUSED TO BE INSPECTED.

BRITISH FURTHER

PERMANENT

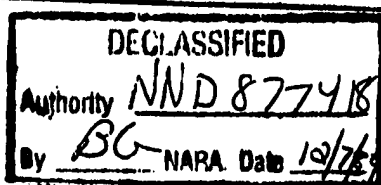
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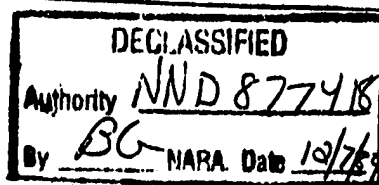
BRITISH FURTHER REPORT THAT TOMORROW A TRUCK CONVOY WILL PROCEED FROM FEDREP TO BERLIN. IF SOVIETS DEMAND TO INSPECT VEHICLES AT MARIENBORN, CONVOY INSTRUCTED NOT (REPEAT NOT) TURN BACK BUT REMAIN MARIENBORN PENDING FURTHER ORDERS.

GUFLER

RH/6

Note: Read by Mr. McFarland (GER) 2/3-6:50 P.M., EH

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